

## The Intelligencer.

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Complains from down the river about

The inefficiency and incompetency of

the present system of supplying the

towns with mails is a question of considerable

interest. It may be, however, that the

system is well enough, that the Postal

Department is not to blame, and that the

company that has the contract is alone in

fault, but wherever it is, there should cer-

tainly be an immediate reform. On last

Monday the river was closed by ice and

all the mail received at this point since

that time was a few papers by the Belton

mail on Tuesday, and the letters by the

morning. As we are only twenty-eight

miles from the railroad, there is no reason

that we can imagine to prevent us from re-

ceiving mail at least twice a week, if the

river is closed.

The down river people should see in

their present situation a strong inducement

to renew and push forward the agitation

for a railroad—either the one from

Mannington to New Martinsville, or the

proposed narrow gauge along the river

from Wheeling to Parkersburg.

The Press of the Country Waking Up to

the Overwhelming Importance of the

Chinese Question.

We are greatly gratified to see such pa-

pers as the Cincinnati Enquirer and Chi-

cago Times, and other influential journals,

taking up the Chinese question lately and

discussing it in their columns in a way

that cannot fail to command attention.

The Times takes the following proposi-

tion, viz: that immigration from the old

world to the new is due to the fact that

comparatively, at least, the regions from

which the tide sets are over-populated;

that there the struggle for existence is

so keen that people are driven to quit home

and wander to a country where there is

room enough to afford a better living.

And in the nature of things this immigra-

tion will continue, diminishing the labor

supply there and increasing it here, until

that point is reached where the average

rate of wages and the average cost of living

on each continent is equal.

Suppose no bar be set to Chinese im-

migration, which scarce dates back twenty

years. Upon the same principle, so long

as the rate of wages in the United States

continues to be higher than in China, the

immigration will continue. It will cease

when wages at San Francisco reach the

level of wages at Hong Kong. While the

outlet afforded for any over-supply of la-

bor has tended to keep up or advance the

wage-rate in Europe, so dense is the popu-

lation of the Mongolian empire that the

exportation of a hundred millions of peo-

ple could not be expected to raise the rate

of wages fifty per cent, above the present

wretched level which drives the Chinese

here now.

The volume of Chinese immigration has

not as yet been sufficient to bring the

question into earnest consideration in this

aspect. But who can foretell the ending

of the sudden interruption of these Asiatics,

which, beginning only twenty years ago,

and after ages of non-intercourse, has scattered

them throughout this country, while thou-

sands have returned to bear tidings of the

marvelous riches of this to them truly

golden land? Commercial enterprise fosters

this immigration and improvements in

ocean navigation cheapen and stimulate it.

Meanwhile would it be strange if the

same causes which in China broke down

the traditional policy of non-intercourse,

and set the current of immigration toward

our shores, should multiply it? The ulti-

mate of the Chinese problem, as of all

questions of immigration, is the equaliza-

tion of the rate of wages in two countries;

that is, the reduction of the wage-rate in

America to a level with the wage-rate in

China.

GAMBLING.

Wheeling's Attractions in That Line.

Editor Intelligencer:

The farcial manner in which the law

is enforced (?) against gamblers in this

city, is, to say the least, simply disgusting;

and if police do not stand in with these

ulcers on society, then are appearances

deceptive. Occasionally we hear of a place

being "pulled," but what does it amount

to? Practically nothing; and the gam-

blers know it. Gambling houses are oper-

ated here with almost as much freedom as

any legitimate business, except that they

are not openly advertised, and their pro-

prietors are comparatively secure from

molestation.

In St. Louis, Louisville, Buffalo and sev-

eral other cities these dens have been pre-

tentionally stamped out, and the prop-

rietors thereof forced to seek other local-

ities more desirable. I am glad to hear

that the police can find them if they

wish.

Now is not the duty as well as the

interest of every good, law-abiding citizen

to tend his influence and aid towards re-

moving the temptations that are open and

the dangers that beset our young men? If

heads of families, ministers, merchants,

employers, you especially have a deep in-

terest in this matter.

The authorities would, no doubt, per-

form their duty in ridding the community

of these "hell-recurring officers" were

they backed up by the people and the

mighty influence of the press. There is

much pander to the lower elements

of society, and it is time it was stopped.

Now how can an end be put to public

gaming here? Simply by requiring our

chief of police to do his duty. Shall I name

them? No; for it is not by purpose to be

responsible, unless occasion calls for it. Are

these landlords aware of the character of

business carried on in their buildings? If

not, they had better investigate, and see

that the necessity of giving it to the

public. I'll guarantee they know when

rent days come, and I'll further guarantee

that they collect their rents promptly. Let

the authorities serve notice, and let the

property owners, and give them also the

full extent of the law (if there be any law)

for the second offence. That would help

to settle it, and cause the professional

gambler to fold his tent. I feel that there

is, and there will be, considerable

professional gambling, but let us get rid of

the professional business first, and the other

will not amount to very much.

I feel that I would not be completing

my duty were I not to refer, also, to the

samoically manner in which the gambling

reasons. The authorities know all about

these things, and it is sufficient for my pur-

poses to say that you wish

these nuisances abated? If so, it can be

easily done, and the money spent for police

purposes will be expended to some advan-

tage at least, we shall see!

WHEELING, DEC. 28.

ANON.

WHEELSBURG.

WHEELSBURG, December 28.

Editors Intelligencer:

I recently came into possession of a

volume bearing the following title: "An

Inquiry into the Nature and Treatment of

the Prevailing Epidemic, called Spotted

Fever, &amp;c., &amp;c. In three parts. By Job

Wilson, M. D., Boston: Published and

sold by Bradford &amp; Read, No. 58 Cornhill.

1815. George Hough, Printer, Concord,

New Hampshire."

Part first treats "of the climate and dis-

eases of these States since their first settle-

ment in 1620 to 1806." Under this head

the first paragraph states: "May 31, 1607.

The Plymouth company send two ships

with one hundred men, George Popham,

President, and Capt. Rawling Gilbert, Ad-

miral, to Sagadahock, North Virginia."

"December 15. The two ships sail from

Sagadahock, with all their company, ex-

cept forty-five."

"A. D. 1608.—This winter extremely cold,

both in Europe and North America. This

spring the colony broke up and return to

England. They brand the country ex-

ceedingly cold, and not habitable by Eu-

ropeans, and the adventures given by

their design of transmitting inhabitants to

America. No death happens during their

stay on the continent, except that of their

President, Mr. Popham."

"A. D. 1610.—This winter a plague is

said to have destroyed many of the na-

tives of New England."

"A. D. 1617.—This winter, and spring

ensuing, a great plague befalls the natives,

which wastes the colony exceedingly; and

many thousands of them die, though the

living are not able to bury the dead, whose

skulls and bones laid on the ground at the

places of their habitations, for several years

after. The Penobscots in the east and the

Narragansets in the west are said to have

escaped this plague."

"A. D. 1620, Nov. 9th.—The first set-

tlers of New England arrived at Cape

Cod."

"On the 13th.—The water being shallow,

they are forced to leave their vessel, and

wade a bow-shot or two, before they can

reach land. The weather being cold and

freezing, they are seized with grievous

coughs and colds, which finally caused the

death of a great many of them."

We shall leave this interesting diary for

the time being.

One other article is all that our time will

allow us to extract, and that is as follows:

"Account of the influenza, as it appears

in Wheeling, State of Virginia, in the year

1807. By Dr. Gideon C. Forsyth. (See

N. Y. Med. Repos. Vol. VI. H. 2. p. 350.)

"There is perhaps no record of the sudden

intermittent fever, which produced the

snow on the mountains, which produced the

ed a very great rise in the waters in the

Ohio, the air very damp, and cold wind

north and northwest. Its symptoms were

cold shivering, pain in the head, generally

across the eyes, full pulse, sore throat, an

ichorous discharge from the eyes, cough

and pain in the limbs. The influen-

za appeared very early in this country twice

in 1807, viz: May and October."

G. B. C.

A Man Who Should Get Ten Years in the

Penitentiary.

Steuersville Gazette of Sunday.

One of the boldest attempts to perpet-

rate a heinous crime upon a respectable

girl in this or any other community oc-

curred last evening between half-past five

and six o'clock, in the upper part of town.

The victim was a servant girl, and has

always borne a good reputation as a quiet,

respectable woman. Yesterday she re-

ceived her pay and started to the house of

a seamstress on Logan street, to attend to

some business in reference to a dress she

was having made. On her return, before it

was yet entirely dark, she was accosted

by one Robert Cullen near the corner of

Sixth and Logan streets, who desired to

see her home. Not desiring his company

she declined, and he persisting in thrust-

ing his attentions on her she ran out Sixth

and down Koss street.

She was followed by him and by Fifth, catch-

ing her at the corner of Fifth and Koss,

but she got away and he pursuing her still

up Fifth street caught her again at the cor-

ner of Madison avenue. He dragged her

along by the hair of her head, and when

notwithstanding her screams and strug-

gles, he threw her down and would have

succeeded in accomplishing his purpose,

had not William Robinson, who was go-

ing down Madison avenue, been attracted

by the noise, and going towards the spot

discovered the parties. Cullen fled, pur-

sued by Robinson, to the house of John

Evans, on North Fifth street, when Rob-

inson turned his attention to the girl and

assisted her home, where she arrived in

an almost distracted condition. Mr. Rob-

inson then went to the Mayor's office

where an affidavit was filed against Cullen

for attempted rape. Officers Hawkins and

Carter were dispatched to arrest Cullen,

and he was taken into custody. He will

be arraigned on Monday at 10 o'clock A. M.

The Sorrows of an Erring Minister.

Memphis, December 27.—To the

people of Memphis: I came to your city

nearly two weeks ago, and came as an

errand boy, to deliver a lecture, and I may

say that I have been very successful. I

deemed by the people I left, and who

know me best, an object of scorn and in-

dignation. I was up to that time, Decem-

ber 18th, at least, in the opinion of the

citizens of the United States; but I am

deemed by the people I left, and who

know me best, an object of scorn and in-

dignation. I was up to that time, Decem-

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